

DOMINION OF CANADA

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REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

FOR THE

Fiscal Year ended March 31, 1923

PRINTED BY ORDER OF PARLIAMENT



OTTAWA  
F. A. ACLAND  
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
1923







## ANNUAL REPORT

## COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

*To His Excellency, General, the Right Honourable Lord Byng of Vimy, G.C.B.,  
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., Governor General and Commander in Chief of the  
Dominion of Canada.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency the report of the Commissioner of Patents for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1923.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES A. ROBB,

*Minister of Trade and Commerce.*

OTTAWA, June 13, 1923.







## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

The Honourable JAMES A. ROBB, M.P.,

Minister of Trade and Commerce.

SIR,—In pursuance of the requirements of the 63rd section of the Patent Act, chapter 69, R.S.C., 1906, and section 5A of an Act respecting the Patent Act, the Copyright Act, the Trade Mark and Design Act, and the Timber Marking Act, chapter 64, 9 and 10, George V, I have the honour to report as follows upon the proceedings in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1923, under the provisions of these Acts.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

The general business of the office for the year ended March 31, 1923, showed a slight increase over the preceding year. The number of applications for patents filed was 10,806. This is 1,468 less than last year or a decrease of nearly 12 per cent. There were 12,542 patents issued. This is the greatest number of patents ever issued by the office in a single year and is an increase of 5,149 or almost 70 per cent more than last year. This large increase resulted from the change in the method of payment of fees under the Act amending the Patent Act assented to June 4, 1921. By this amendment applicants were given six months from the date of the notice of allowance of the application in which to remit the final fee. So many took advantage of this privilege to withhold the fees until the last moment that the issue of the fiscal year 1921-22 was greatly reduced. At the expiration of the first six months under the amending Act the issue of patents was very heavy for some time and the large output for this year is due in part to the effects of this Act. Certificates for renewal fees totalled 2,127, a decrease of 493 or 19 per cent less than the previous year. Eighty of the renewals were received under the Patent Act, chapter 69, R.S.C., 1906, and 2,047 were accepted as final fees under the amendment to the Patent Act, 11-12, George V, chapter 44. One hundred and one of these certificates for final fees were issued under section 5 of the amending Act as the result of the judgment given in *Atlas Underwear Company vs. Commissioner of Patents*. The number of assignments recorded was 5,143 a decrease of 338 or six per cent. Petitions to place 3,522 patents under the operation of section 44—the compulsory license clause—were received and 3,287 of these were allowed. This is an increase of 36 per cent or a total of 877 more than during the preceding twelve months. Two hundred and eighty-five petitions to extend the period for importation were filed and one hundred and four were



granted. This is an increase of 33 or 46 per cent. Extension of time in which to begin manufacture was given on 197 patents out of 537 petitions presented. This is 124 more than last year or nearly 170 per cent. Notices under section 8 were 289 in number, a decrease of 92 or 24 per cent from last year. Applications for caveats were a few less than the previous year but the caveats granted increased. Caveat applications amounted to 513 and caveat grants were 452. This is a decrease of 6 and an increase of 32 respectively. There were 7,134 reports by patent examiners in addition to the patents allowed. This exceeds last year by 199 or about 3 per cent. The total transactions relating to patents numbered 46,938, an increase of 8,361 or over 21 per cent in excess of last year.

Registrations of Copyright numbered 1,591. This is 126 more than last year, an increase of almost 9 per cent. Trade Mark registrations totalled 2,393, a decrease of 95 or 4 per cent. There were 372 Industrial Designs recorded, three more than the previous year. Timber Mark registrations were 17, a decrease of 3. The assignments of Copyrights, Trade Marks, Designs and Timber Marks amounted to 413. This is an decrease of 157 or 28 per cent. The total registrations affecting Copyright, Trade Marks, Designs and Timber Marks were 4,932. This is 116 or about 2 per cent less than the preceding twelve months.

A statement of the particulars of the transactions of the Patent and Copyright Office is given in appendix A, and a comparative statement for the last ten years is given in appendix B.

#### RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

The receipt of fees from all sources exceeded any previous year though the number of applications filed was less than last year. The large issue of patents on which the final fee had been paid during the year was responsible for the greater part of this increased revenue. The fees for filing petitions for licenses, importation and manufacture were also nearly double the preceding year as these fees were not in effect during the whole of the last year. The total net receipts were \$484,478.91, an increase of \$29,592.67 over the net amount received in 1922. The expenditure was \$225,287.80 and the surplus of receipts over expenditure was \$259,191.11. The fees received for patents was \$413,237.82 a gain of \$33,030.92 over the preceding year. From the Copyright and Trade-mark Branch of the office the fees were \$71,241.09, a decrease of \$3,438.25.

A statement of the receipts and expenditure is given in appendix C and detailed monthly statements of fees from the Patent Branch and the Copyright and Trade-mark Branch are given in appendices D and E respectively.

#### RESIDENCE OF INVENTORS FOR PATENTS GRANTED

The country of residence of inventors for patents issued is given in appendix F. Of the total number granted, 8,405 were applied for by residents of the United States of America. This is 67 per cent of the total and is the same percentage as last year. Inventors resident in Canada contributed 2,021, or over 16 per cent. This is also the same percentage of the total issue as the preceding year. Residents of Great Britain, its colonies and possessions applied for 1,172 or 9 per cent of the whole issue. This is a 2 per cent decrease from last year. The remaining 944 patents or over 7 per cent came from inventors in twenty-six other countries. This is an increase of 2 per cent over the previous year.



## SESSIONAL PAPER No. 9

## EXCHANGE OF PUBLICATIONS

The office received during the year, in exchange for the Patent Office Record, the official publications and reports of patents, trade-marks and designs from Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, France, the United States, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland and Japan. The office also received at intervals as published the abridgements of patents and bound volumes of patents of Great Britain, the printed copies of French patents and the current weekly issue of United States patents.

In addition about sixty-five scientific and technical periodicals for the use of the examining corps were subscribed for or exchanged for the Record.

## STAFF

The number of employees of the office averaged 117 during the year, consisting of 90 permanent and 27 temporary officers and clerks. This is an increase of six in the temporary staff and was due to the increased number of certified copies of patents called for, a large increase in the correspondence and the general increase in the work. During the twelve months three clerks were retired on superannuation and four clerks resigned.

## LETTERS, ETC.

The receipt of letters relating to Patent, Copyright and other office transactions amounted to 58,269 and the letters, correspondence forms and parcels of publications despatched from the office amounted to 144,252.

## TREND OF INVENTION IN 1922-23

The subject of locomotion in general maintained its pre-eminence in the field of invention. The receipt of applications relating to the many branches of this subject was maintained at about the same rate as the previous year. The land vehicle class is still the largest single class of invention and internal combustion motors is the next largest though there is a decrease of nearly twenty per cent in the latter compared with last year. Applications relating to aeronautical navigation again declined.

Inventions pertaining to tillage and grain separation and animal husbandry showed increases of nearly 30 per cent.

Applications for wireless communication showed a slight increase. Inventions for telephony and telegraphy were the same as the preceding year.

There were slight decreases in most of the metal working classes with the exception of nail and screw machines and can heading and seaming machines.

The coal shortage during the past winter provided a stimulus to inventions connected with the use of fuel oil furnaces. There was also a slight increase in coal briquetting inventions.

Inventions in printing presses and typewriters increased considerably. Many of the typewriter applications were directed to the elimination of noise and to folding portable typewriters.

Boots and shoes and the machines for their manufacture showed nearly 100 per cent increase.

Applications for wooden, metallic, glass and paper containers made appreciable gains over last year.

There was a large increase in the number of applications for grinding mills.

In many other classes of invention such as optics, photography, bundle carriers, ventilation, measuring instruments, fire escapes, ladders, driers, chemicals and cash registers, there were substantial gains.



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## LEGISLATION

Four Acts relating to patents were passed by Parliament. The first of these placed a patent under the operation of section 44, as the time within which application could be made to the Patent Office had expired. The second Act extended the period of importation on one patent. The third extended the period for the commencement of manufacture on five patents and the fourth Act granted an extension of time within which to file application for patent on an invention already patented more than a year previous in a foreign country.

Bills to amend and consolidate the Patent Act, and to amend the Trade-Mark and Design Act were introduced into the House of Commons and received the first reading on February 16, 1923. The Copyright Amendment Bill was introduced on February 21, 1923, and read for the first time. No further progress on these Bills had been reported when the fiscal year ended.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE F. O'HALLORAN,  
*Commissioner of Patents.*

OTTAWA, June 13, 1923.











## APPENDIX A

TRANSACTIONS OF THE PATENT AND COPYRIGHT OFFICE FROM APRIL 1, 1922, TO  
MARCH 31, 1923

## (a) Transactions of the Patent Branch.

Applications for Patents.....	10,806
Patents granted—	
Fees paid for 6 years on issue.....	2,824
Fees paid for 18 years on issue.....	9,666
Re-issue Patents granted—	
For 6 years.....	14
For 18 years.....	38
Total.....	12,542
Certificates for renewal fees after issue—	
For 6 years.....	80
For 18 years (as final fees).....	2,047
Total.....	2,127
Assignments of Patents.....	5,143
Reports by Examiners in addition to Patents granted.....	7,134
Caveat applications.....	513
Caveats granted.....	452
Petitions under section 44 (Compulsory Licence).....	3,522
Grants under section 44 (Compulsory Licence).....	3,287
Petitions for extension of time for importation.....	285
Grants for extension of time for importation.....	104
Petitions for extension of time for manufacture.....	537
Grants for extension of time for manufacture.....	197
Notices under section 8.....	289
Total transactions.....	46,938

## (b) Transactions of the Copyright and Trade-mark Branch.

1. Copyrights—	
Full Copyrights without certificates.....	1,286
Full Copyrights with certificates.....	184
Temporary Copyrights without certificates.....	38
Temporary Copyrights with certificates.....	12
Interim Copyrights without certificates.....	50
Interim Copyrights with certificates.....	21
Renewals of Copyrights.....	
Assignments of Copyrights.....	56
Total.....	1,647
2. Trade Marks.....	2,393
Renewals of Specific Trade Marks.....	128
Assignments of Trade Marks.....	323
Total.....	2,844
3. Industrial Designs.....	372
Renewals of Industrial Designs.....	18
Assignments of Industrial Designs.....	32
Total.....	422
4. Timber Marks.....	17
Assignments of Timber Marks.....	2
Total.....	19
Total Registrations.....	4,932



APPENDIX B

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TRANSACTIONS OF THE PATENT AND COPYRIGHT OFFICE FROM 1914 TO 1923, INCLUSIVE.

(a) Comparative Statement of the Patent Branch.

	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
Applications for Patents										
Patents granted.....	8,359	7,302	7,793	8,751	8,683	9,025	11,198	13,446	12,274	10,806
Certificates for renewal fees.....	7,918	6,867	6,812	7,520	7,233	6,052	9,527	11,152	7,393	12,542
Caveats granted.....	1,323	1,211	1,419	1,599	1,847	2,022	2,036	2,549	2,620	2,127
Assignments.....	354	391	419	358	364	349	408	410	420	452
Fees received, net	3,432	3,391	3,311	3,661	3,425	3,690	4,479	5,525	5,481	5,143
	\$215,001 71	\$190,028 37	\$202,630 40	\$227,094 09	\$228,278 57	\$239,345 38	\$294,046 28	\$344,712 23	\$380,206 90	\$413,237 82

(b) Comparative Statement of the Copyright and Trade Mark Branch.

	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
Copyrights registered.....	1,835	1,675	1,477	1,384	1,440	1,436	2,028	1,729	1,465	1,591
Certificates of copyright.....	207	193	146	160	128	142	201	174	244	217
Trade Marks Registered.....	1,378	1,106	1,019	840	987	919	1,735	2,128	2,609	2,521
Industrial Designs Registered	165	224	215	196	177	169	186	316	384	390
Timber Marks Registered.....	57	24	27	55	31	90	22	58	20	17
Assignments Registered.....	264	242	279	333	234	255	320	624	570	413
Fees received, net.....	\$41,251 98	\$32,840 87	\$29,645 11	\$28,642 81	\$32,265 28	\$40,178 82	\$60,450 69	\$63,174 50	\$74,679 34	\$71,241 09



APPENDIX C

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR 1922-23

RECEIPTS		EXPENDITURES	
Cash received.....	\$ 510,619 13	Salaries.....	\$ 155,037 62
Cash refunded.....	26,140 22	Patent Record.....	36,397 27
		Contingencies.....	33,852 91
			225,287 80
Net cash.....	\$ 484,478 91	Receipts over expenditures.....	259,191 11
			\$ 484,478 91

DELETED SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET OFFICE EMP. FOR AVE  
APPENDIX D



APPENDIX D  
DETAILED STATEMENT PATENT OFFICE FEES FOR YEAR 1922-23

Month	Notices	Patents	Assign- ments	Cerified Copies	Caveats	Sundries	Subscrip- tions	Section 44	Import	Manufac- ture	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	cts.	cts.	cts.	cts.	cts.	cts.	cts.	cts.	cts.	cts.	cts.
1922											
April.....	70 00	30,625 89	1,076 55	585 60	217 50	134 60	202 75	1,315 00	206 00	262 05	34,695 94
May.....	48 00	37,706 28	1,228 90	595 35	265 15	177 85	128 70	1,255 00	109 25	240 00	41,754 48
June.....	55 00	32,129 92	1,070 65	540 55	285 15	215 05	57 55	1,200 00	55 00	247 00	35,855 87
July.....	50 10	31,777 45	917 95	621 45	247 15	85 90	53 65	1,122 50	60 00	135 00	35,071 15
August.....	56 00	30,492 24	924 33	519 53	170 44	26 50	82 25	1,607 00	100 00	180 00	34,158 29
September.....	37 00	31,089 65	938 50	505 16	116 00	65 80	38 68	1,363 00	100 00	130 00	34,383 79
October.....	42 00	32,500 13	1,006 25	634 05	175 15	23 65	58 90	1,644 00	80 00	177 00	36,341 13
November.....	50 00	32,112 25	863 50	757 25	195 00	21 00	41 81	1,515 00	55 00	275 05	35,885 86
December.....	36 00	28,586 33	883 15	648 40	218 50	0 50	787 80	1,651 00	70 00	183 00	33,064 68
1923											
January.....	48 00	31,919 25	935 27	745 06	220 00	3 25	257 75	2,107 00	115 00	281 00	36,631 58
February.....	69 00	26,795 55	863 00	478 25	245 15	19 50	67 35	1,478 00	210 00	200 00	30,425 80
March.....	71 00	33,218 55	1,150 50	634 60	281 00	24 75	82 00	1,481 00	359 00	248 00	37,550 40
Totals.....	632 10	378,953 49	11,858 55	7,265 25	2,636 19	798 35	1,859 19	17,738 50	1,519 25	2,558 10	425,818 97
Refunds.....	53 00	10,491 23	153 80	324 47	37 90	645 35	34 15	284 00	210 25	347 00	12,581 15
Totals.....	579 10	368,462 26	11,704 75	6,940 78	2,598 29	153 00	1,825 04	17,454 50	1,309 00	2,211 10	413,237 82



## APPENDIX E

## DETAILED STATEMENT TRADEMARK AND COPYRIGHT FEES, 1922-23

Month	Trade- marks	Copy- rights	Designs	Timber- marks	Assign- ments	Certified Copies	Totals
1922	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
April.....	6,880 00	135 50	207 00	9 00	70 00	89 75	7,391 25
May.....	6,888 45	168 50	233 00		64 15	60 50	7,414 60
June.....	8,164 30	176 00	275 50	2 00	96 15	63 00	8,776 95
July.....	6,827 15	122 00	166 50	25 00	117 50	38 75	7,296 90
August.....	7,270 87	158 75	136 00	14 00	97 20	29 50	7,706 32
September.....	5,082 00	163 75	198 15		29 00	53 00	5,525 90
October.....	6,882 10	128 50	189 15	4 00	58 15	36 25	7,298 15
November.....	5,836 95	138 99	173 00	4 00	66 00	75 25	6,294 19
December.....	5,278 50	190 40	85 00	2 00	82 00	42 25	5,680 15
1923							
January.....	6,741 81	194 32	157 00	6 00	40 00	40 00	7,179 13
February.....	7,280 72	138 50	188 00	2 00	79 00	31 50	7,719 72
March.....	6,075 00	195 65	135 00	4 00	58 00	49 25	6,516 90
Totals.....	79,207 85	1,910 86	2,143 30	72 00	857 15	609 00	84,800 16
Refunds.....	13,189 55	101 52	204 50	6 00	54 50	3 00	13,559 07
Totals.....	66,108 30	1,809 34	1,938 80	66 00	802 65	606 00	71,241 09



## APPENDIX F

## RESIDENCES OF INVENTORS FOR PATENTS GRANTED IN 1922-23

Canada—		Foreign States—Con.	
Ontario.....	845	Europe—	
Quebec.....	430	Germany.....	299
British Columbia.....	202	France.....	203
Saskatchewan.....	166	Sweden.....	88
Manitoba.....	158	Switzerland.....	71
Alberta.....	155	Italy.....	52
Nova Scotia.....	35	Austria.....	50
New Brunswick.....	21	Norway.....	50
Prince Edward Island.....	9	Belgium.....	33
		Holland.....	28
Total.....	2,021	Denmark.....	17
Great Britain and Ireland—		Czecho Slovakia.....	7
England.....	854	Spain.....	5
Scotland.....	60	Poland.....	4
Ireland.....	16	Finland.....	3
Wales.....	9	Jugo-Slavia.....	1
		Total.....	911
Total.....	939	Asia—	
British Colonies and Possessions—		Japan.....	15
Australia.....	150	Philippine Islands.....	3
New Zealand.....	63	China.....	2
South Africa.....	13	Dutch East Indies.....	1
Newfoundland.....	3		
India.....	2	Total.....	21
British West Indies.....	1	Oceania—	
Egypt.....	1	Society Islands.....	1
		Total.....	1
Total.....	233	Africa—	
Foreign States—		Tunisia.....	1
America—		Total.....	1
United States.....	8,405	Grand total.....	12,542
Chili.....	4		
Mexico.....	3		
Argentine Republic.....	1		
Columbia.....	1		
Uruguay.....	1		
Total.....	8,415		